

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Indian Affairs****Operation and Maintenance Rate Adjustment: San Carlos Irrigation Project, Arizona**

ACTION: Notice of proposed irrigation operation and maintenance (O&M) rate adjustment.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Affairs proposes to change the assessment rates for operating and maintaining the San Carlos Irrigation Project for the 1998 and 1999 irrigation season. The following table illustrates the impact of the rate adjustment.

SAN CARLOS IRRIGATION PROJECT
[Irrigation Rate Per Assessable Acre]

	Year		
	Present 1997	Proposed 1998	Proposed 1999
Rate	\$30.00	\$20.00	\$26.00

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Area Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Phoenix Area Office, P.O. Box 10, Phoenix, Arizona 85001, Telephone (602) 379-6956.

DATE: Interested parties may submit comments on the proposed rate adjustment. Comments must be submitted on or before October 17, 1997.

ADDRESSES: All comments concerning the proposed rate adjustment must be in writing and addressed to: Director, Office of Trust Responsibilities, Attn.: Irrigation and Power, MS#4513-MIB, Code 210, 1849 "C" Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240, Telephone (202) 208-5480.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The authority to issue this document is vested in the Secretary of the Interior by 5 U.S.C. 301 and the Act of August 14, 1914 (38 Stat. 583, 25 U.S.C. 385). The Secretary has delegated this authority to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs pursuant to part 209 Departmental Manual, Chapter 8.1A and Memorandum dated January 25, 1994, from Chief of Staff, Department of the Interior, to Assistant Secretaries, and Heads of Bureaus and Offices.

This notice is given in accordance with § 171.1(e) and 171.1(g) of part 171, Subchapter H, Chapter 1, of Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which provides for the fixing and announcing the rates for annual operation and maintenance assessments and related information of Bureau of Indian Affairs irrigation projects.

The assessment rates are based on a prepared estimate of the cost of normal operation and maintenance of the irrigation project. Normal operation and maintenance means the expenses we incur to provide direct support or

benefit to the project's activities for administration, operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation. We must include at least:

(a) Personnel salary and benefits for the project engineer/manager and our employees under his management/control;

(b) Materials and supplies;

(c) Major and minor vehicle and equipment repairs;

(d) Equipment, including transportation, fuel, oil, grease, lease and replacement;

(e) Capitalization expenses;

(f) Acquisition expenses, and

(g) Other expenses we determine necessary to properly perform the activities and functions characteristic of an irrigation project.

Payments

The irrigation operation and maintenance assessments become due based on locally established payment requirements. No water shall be delivered to any of these lands until all irrigation charges have been paid.

Interest and Penalty Fees

Interest, penalty, and administrative fees will be assessed, where required by law, on all delinquent operation and maintenance assessment charges as prescribed in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 4, Part 102, Federal Claims Collection Standards; and 42 BIAM Supplement 3, part 3.8 Debt Collection Procedures. Beginning 30 days after the due date interest will be assessed at the rate of the current value of funds to the U.S. Treasury. An administrative fee of \$12.50 will be assessed each time an effort is made to collect a delinquent debt; a penalty charge of 6 percent per year will be charged on delinquent debts over 90

days old and will accrue from the date the debt became delinquent. No water shall be delivered to any farm unit until all irrigation charges have been paid. After 180 days a delinquent debt will be forwarded to the United States Treasury for further action in accordance with Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-134).

Dated: September 4, 1997.

Ada E. Deer,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-24697 Filed 9-16-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management Alaska**

[AK-962-1410-00-P]

Notice for Publication (AA-9260); Alaska Native Claims Selection

In accordance with Departmental regulation 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that a decision to issue conveyance under the provisions of Sec. 14(h)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of December 18, 1971, 43 U.S.C. 1601, 1613(h)(1), will be issued to Calista Corporation for approximately 26.9 acres. The lands involved are in the vicinity of Nunivak Island, Alaska.

Seward Meridian, Alaska

T. 4 S., R. 98 W.,
Secs. 4 and 9.

A notice of the decision will be published once a week, for four (4) consecutive weeks, in the *Anchorage Daily News*. Copies of the decision may be obtained by contacting the Alaska State Office of the Bureau of Land Management, 222 West Seventh

Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599 (907) 271-5960).

Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by the decision, an agency of the Federal government or regional corporation, shall have until October 17, 1997 to file an appeal. However, parties receiving service by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal. Appeals must be filed in the Bureau of Land Management at the address identified above, where the requirements for filing an appeal may be obtained. Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR Part 4, Subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights.

Patricia A. Baker,

Land Law Examiner, ANCSA Team, Branch of 962 Adjudication.

[FR Doc. 97-24631 Filed 9-16-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310--\$S-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management Alaska

[AK-962-1410-00-P]

Notice for Publication (AA-9284); Alaska Native Claims Selection

In accordance with Departmental regulation 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that a decision to issue conveyance under the provisions of Sec. 14(h)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of December 18, 1971, 43 U.S.C. 1601, 1613(h)(1), will be issued to Calista Corporation for approximately 0.95 acre. The lands involved are in the vicinity of Nunivak Island, Alaska.

Seward Meridian, Alaska

T. 3 S., R. 102 W.,
Sec. 23

A notice of the decision will be published once a week, for four (4) consecutive weeks, in the *Anchorage Daily News*. Copies of the decision may be obtained by contacting the Alaska State Office of the Bureau of Land Management, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599 ((907) 271-5960).

Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by the decision, an agency of the Federal government or regional corporation, shall have until October 17, 1997 to file an appeal. However, parties receiving service by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal. Appeals must be filed in the Bureau of Land Management at the address identified above, where the requirements for filing an appeal may be

obtained. Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR Part 4, Subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights.

Patricia A. Baker,

Land Law Examiner, ANCSA Team, Branch of 962 Adjudication.

[FR Doc. 97-24632 Filed 9-16-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310--\$S-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-060-01-1310-00]

Gillette South Coalbed Methane Project, Campbell County, Wyoming; Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the Gillette South Coalbed Methane Project abbreviated (FEIS). Together with the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) issued in March 1997, the FEIS analyzes the environmental consequences of coalbed methane development within the Gillette South assessment area. The development area is located in Campbell County and generally located within Townships 42 through 49 North; Ranges 70 through 73 West, 6th Principal Meridian. The area is accessed by U.S. Highway 59 south of Gillette, Wyoming. Access to the interior of the assessment area is provided by a road system developed to service prior and ongoing drilling and production activities.

DATES: Since the FEIS is abbreviated it must be reviewed with the DEIS. Comments on the FEIS will be accepted for 30 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes their Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. The EPA notice is expected on or about September 5, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the FEIS should be sent to Mr. Richard Zander, Bureau of Land Management, Buffalo Resource Area, 1425 Fort Street, Buffalo, Wyoming 82834.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DEIS issued in March 1997, received twelve comments. These comments were addressed and considered in the analysis of the FEIS. The FEIS analyzes a proposed action, and the no action alternative. It also considers four other alternatives, Restrict Timing of Approval of Federal Wells, Reduce Number of Federal Wells Approved,

Change the Method of Surface Water Disposal, and Inject Produced Water Underground. The proposal presented by the operators is to continue to drill additional wells on their leased acreage within this methane gas development area.

Over the next 3 to 5 years, the operators propose to drill up to 400 (210 private or State and 190 Federal) additional wells to obtain maximum recovery of methane gas from existing Federal (41 percent), State, and private oil and gas leases. The FEIS describes the physical, biological, cultural, historic, and socioeconomic resources in and surrounding the project area. The focus of the impact analysis was based upon resource issues, concerns identified during public scoping, and the public and internal review comments received on the DEIS.

Dated: September 5, 1997.

Alan R. Pierson,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 97-24606 Filed 9-16-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-330-1010-00]

Notice of Resource Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management's Northwest (Ukiah) Resource Advisory Council will hold a business meeting and field tour Thursday and Friday, October 2 and 3, 1997 at the Mattole Lodge, located in the Mattole Valley, halfway between Petrolia and Honeydew, California. The Mattole Lodge is located on the Mattole River near AW Way County Park.

The meeting is open to the public. Agenda items include an update on BLM's Environmental Impact Statement for Livestock Grazing, a discussion on BLM's proposal to close 3.5 miles of beach in the King Range National Conservation Area to motorized use, an overview of the land exchange/acquisition program within BLM California, an update on a National Conservation Area proposal for the Sacramento River, a subcommittee report on recreation fees on public land facilities, updates from the Arcata, Clear Lake and Redding Resource Areas, and a State Office update on current issues.

The October 2 meeting begins at 10:30 a.m. at the fairground parking lot in